

# VALL REVIEW

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VALL REVIEW is the official newsletter of the Vancouver Association of Law Libraries, composed of law library community members interested in discussing issues and sharing ideas that affect it. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent VALL policy/position. Unsolicited submissions are welcome. VALL reserves the right to edit submissions.

## FROM THE EXECUTIVE OF VALL

Anna Holeton

As I write, I cannot help thinking that as you read this during the VALL luncheon, I will be dining in Florence, Italy. In preparing for my Italian holiday, I read *Frances Mayes' Under the Tuscan Sun*, scanned countless travel guides and websites, and—when my travel agent failed me—made my own reservations by email. It has been fun using my skills to research something other than law.

Speaking of legal research, the letter to the *Office of Legislative Counsel* voicing VALL's concerns regarding the change in format of the 1997 *Statutes of British Columbia's Table of Legislative Changes* (formerly the *Table of Statutes*) has finally been sent. Thanks are due to *Sarah Munro* who prepared a draft. The letter and a reply from *Arleen Hartley*, Supervisor of Publications, appear in this issue.

At our May meeting, *Tom Shorthouse*, formerly UBC's Law Librarian, spoke to us before his June retirement. It was wonderful to hear Tom's anecdotes about his careers as teacher, law librarian, and actor. But Tom's modest demeanor gave small hint of his leadership and the esteem with which he is regarded by the legal community. At a UBC Law Faculty and Library dinner held in Tom's honour, the appreciative accolades of all UBC Law Faculty's Deans for the excellent law library Tom created certainly put Tom's accomplishments into perspective.

This *VALL Review* is the first to be published for VALL by the *Continuing Legal Education Society of British Columbia [CLE]*. For this we thank CLE's *Linda Rainaldi*, who successfully championed the idea at *CLE* and *Peter Segnitz* (*British Columbia Law Publishers*) who suggested the idea to her. Without such generosity from legal publishers our profession would suffer indeed.

*Carswell*, too, has displayed generous support for law librarians this summer. At the CALL conference *Carswell's* CEO *Don Van Meer* announced the establishment of the *James D. Lang Memorial Scholarship* to be "awarded annually to a CALL member or members for professional development activities including graduate programs, executive seminars or certificate training programs."

Generosity of spirit and willingness to work with vendors will be crucial in meeting the coming challenges in law libraries. We need to embrace "change as opportunity"<sup>1</sup> and to collaborate effectively with our colleagues and others in shaping our future. I look forward to working with this year's VALL Executive—and members—as we strive to support each other in our daily endeavours as law librarians.

1 the motto of the Special Libraries Association's 1997 conference in Seattle Washington

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Finally, while I am enjoying my holiday, I regret missing the opportunity to hear our September speaker, *Catherine Quinlan, UBC Librarian*. I know that she will have some thought-provoking comments and I look forward to reading the minutes. Although I cannot be present today, I am with you in spirit as I simultaneously enjoy good food and company. Buon appetito!

## FROM THE EDITORS

*Tracey Carmichael and Elizabeth Kinersly*

This issue of the *VALL Review* is the first to be published by CLE. We would like to thank *Mary Conibear*, CLE's Production Manager, for her excellent work and patience while we floundered around getting this first issue to press. The fall issue has traditionally been the one that reports on the various library conferences that proliferate each year in the late spring and early summer. Thanks to everyone for their contributions.

The deadline for submissions for the next issue of the *VALL Review* is November 24, 1998. Please send your submissions in electronic format (WORD 6.0, if possible) to: Elizabeth Kinersly, gek@swinton.ca, 643-1200 (fax) or Tracey Carmichael, bccls@bccls.bc.ca, 660-2821 (fax).

## NETWORKING CD ROMS: TIPS ON EVOLVING THAT DARWIN NEVER MENTIONED

*by Lynda Roberts,  
Manager of Information Services, and Kathryn Mangnus,  
Systems Analyst, Bull Housser and Tupper*

Our library operates to provide information that supports the practice of law. To that end, relevant materials in all formats and services of all types are maintained and made accessible to members of our firm in a cost effective manner. As library managers if we do not fulfill this objective our operation will fail.

There are always challenges threatening the success of our operation. The key to our survival is to function at the best of our ability at all times, through all adversity. Ability, however, is not static. Ability is constantly affected by changes in the environment. Keeping in mind what Charles Darwin wrote about evolution: "It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but rather the one that is most adaptable to change", we can expect our ability to thrive if we adapt to change. Darwin, however, did not offer any tips on enduring this stressful process.

As our library evolves into an electronic environment we are facing many new issues. Understanding the technological issues, that we previously glossed over, is difficult. One of our more daunting tasks in this environment is networking our CD ROMs. For this we are having to learn more about our firm's computer system than we ever thought necessary. While we will not deny that this is stressful, we understand we are experiencing what it means to "adapt".

To date we only have 13 CD ROMs and it has been a huge learning experience networking even this small number. Some organizations are networking upwards of 100 CD ROMs. Initially we were naive about the problems that could exist. In addition, we were reluctant to increase our rather traditional focus of simply reviewing the content and cost of each CD ROM to include understanding the technological issues and requirements associated with networking each CD ROM. Once the problems began, we quickly realized that our attitude had to improve before we could enjoy any success. We had to accept that, in order to be part of the solution, we had to learn new skills and accept new responsibilities. As it was with running the entire library operation, we would have to work to the best of our ability. Considered in these terms, our goal was clear and we understood why our role should change.

*(Note: Since writing this article, important issues have been raised that question the real value of electronic information. These issues include the concept of leasing electronic information versus owning information in print, the commitment to train users, and the publishers unilateral decision to compromise their print products,*

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*phase out most CD ROM products and move quickly into Internet based products. In light of these issues and the increasing cost pressures, librarians must focus on their basic information needs and the requirements of their users. The pendulum swings....)*

The Information Services department was also coming to terms with their changing role. They, also, were faced with the challenge of networking a variety of CD ROMs, none of which, incidentally, they were given an opportunity to review prior to purchase. Often struggling with partial instructions, inferior products and chronic inconsistency, they were extremely frustrated. It was clear that networking the CD ROMs required an integrated approach. We both had to shift our positions somewhat and work as one.

Partnering with our IS department was like learning to walk upright. We were finally able to make progress. The library staff took on some of the routine updating tasks and the IS staff began to take detailed notes on installation and maintenance requirements for each product. We shared information and all learned in the process. Recommendations were made on how to improve the products and these recommendations were passed onto the publishers. In some cases the IS staff developed relationships with the publisher's technical support staff directly.

Currently the 13 CDs are loaded in our CD Tower, a Meridian CD ROM server. It has a 486 PC inside running a special version of Novell & DOS. Presently there are 14 drives, with a potential for 28. All CD volumes are named as separate folders under the one drive letter (R:) Each PC must have a program installed on their local PC called CD Map in order to connect to this server. After installation, the CD Map program sets up a CD Net Startup program which automatically maps the user to the appropriate CD(s) at login. The setup is configured such that each PC having the CD Map program operates as if it had a physical CD-ROM drive installed locally, with the drive letter R:\.

When a new CD is received, a setup icon is created that can be sent to the users. They can simply double-click on the attached icon from within their e-mail and follow some simple installation procedures. This performs a work station install where a copy of the

search program (usually some version of Folio) is installed locally and where "pointers" are set up from within the program to look for the infobases on the CD in the tower.

Most of the problems occur with the monthly, quarterly, or annual updates. In our firm, the librarian removes the old CD, inserts the new updated CD in the CD Tower and sends out an updating icon to the users. While this might sound simple, there are issues that complicate each update.

Listed below are four problems that regularly thwart the updating process:

## **Licensing**

Sometimes, with an update, there is a licensing file that needs to be updated and copied to the user's PC with the update. Once the problem is recognized, an icon can be sent to the users by email that performs this function.

## **Program Change**

Sometimes, with an update, the entire program requires re-installation. Rather than just updating the infobase data the actual program is updated. Once the problem is recognized, sometimes an icon can be sent to the users to re-install the program. However, we have experienced a few problems re-installing through an icon for a variety of reasons, none of which have anything to do with accessing the CD ROMs. In these cases the program needs to be re-installed at the individual work stations.

## **Change of Volume Name**

Sometimes, with an update, the Volume Name on the CD is changed which causes a mapping error. In this situation the CD Map program looks at the R: drive (the CD Tower server) and then finds the subdirectory or Volume Name. For example

R:\FV31            for the CCH Tax CD  
R:\DART            for the Labour CD  
R:\971204\_1752    for the Contaminated Sites CD

In the case of the DART CD, the Volume Name was changed to R:\DART\_V3. This creates a mapping

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error when the program or shortcut installed on a PC is mapped to R:\DART. It simply cannot find the CD. Once the problem is recognized we can often change the name in the shortcut properties. This can be an onerous task if there are 25 users of one CD. Sometimes, however, this solution does not work because there are internal pointers in the program itself directing it where to look. In these cases, the program needs to be re-installed. In an effort to get around this problem the CD is mapped to the number of its position in the tower. For example:

R:\CD0  
R:\CD1  
R:\CD2  
R:\CD3

This eliminates the mapping problem. The Volume Name on the CD can now change with each update, but the pointers continue to point to the same CD number. The IS staff are working on changing this configuration for each CD user in the firm which will virtually eliminate this problem in the future.

## Inconsistencies in the Work Station Installs

There has proven to be inconsistencies with the installation program name. For example, it is preferred that the installation program be named with the preferred standard, *setup.exe* program name, rather than *install.exe*. As it is now, when the installation program name changes, the IS staff must re-write the installation procedure in the icon that is sent to the users.

Now that we are aware of these problems and these solutions, they, on their own, do not necessarily take up a tremendous amount of time. However, together, and on a regular basis, they can add up to considerable administrative hours, to say nothing of the inconvenience and frustration they cause the unwitting users. We still experience some difficulties but now we are much more capable in these circumstances.

As is the nature of technology we are also realizing that there are better methods for networking our CD ROMs. Despite our considerable investment in the CD ROM tower we are now conceding that perhaps purchasing more drive space and simply networking the CD ROMs

is a less troublesome route. The cost for purchasing drive space has dropped considerably since we first started networking CD ROMs. Working through these problems with our Systems department we realize we must combine our skills and our information in order to make informed decisions in the future.

We are enthusiastic about the evolution taking place in our library. Taking a look at our operation now it seems that our ability to deal with the new issues that arise has much to do with our positive attitude. In addition, we have learned some of the key elements to integrating tasks with our IS department. Ironically it was when we focused on our "traditional" mission statement that we were able to understand clearly what changes needed to take place and why. Now if we can just bring the publishers on board ....

*Editorial note: This article originally appeared in Wired West 1, no. 3 (Spring 1998). Wired West is the online newsletter of the Special Libraries Association, Western Canada Chapter*

## NEWS

### Correspondence with Legislative Counsel's Office Regarding Table of of Legislative Changes

**Letter from Anna Holeton, VALL President, to Legislative Counsel's Office**

July 28, 1998

Attention: Ms. Arleen Hartley, Supervisor of  
Publications  
Legislative Counsel Office  
Ministry of the Attorney General  
P.O. Box 9280 Stn Provincial Government  
Victoria, B.C. V8W 9J7

Dear Ms. Arleen Hartley:

Re: Table of Statutes now Table of Legislative  
Changes

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We are writing to express our concern with changes to the format of, and content included in, what was formerly the Table of Statutes and is now the Table of Legislative Changes. We are concerned that the changes, which have been made to the table, reduce its simplicity and increase the complexity of routine statutory research.

We need it to be: simple; comprehensive; consistent; readily accessible as explained below:

- \* Simple: one table to provide all amendment & proclamations info
- \* Comprehensive: year-end cut-off date covers whole year
- \* Consistent: table conforms to tables used in other Canadian jurisdictions
- \* Readily accessible: print resource not dependent on Internet access

### *Increased complexity of statutory research:*

One of the most common legal research questions involves the current status of a given provincial statute. The question is often phrased as, "What did such and such act look like at the end of a given year?" Research of this sort is often done by lawyers, judges, law students, lay people concerned with their own affairs, and public librarians helping their patrons; law librarians are frequently asked for assistance by all of these groups.

As law librarians, we used the Table of Statutes constantly in order to update legislation and answer these frequent questions. Using the old Table of Statutes—assuming the volume had been published for the year in question—it was necessary to check only one table to determine legislative amendments, etc. for a given act since the coming into force of R.S.B.C. 1979. Using the 1997 Table of Legislative Changes this same research will require at least three steps, as illustrated by the following example: updating the *Agricultural Produce Grading Act*, R.S.B.C. 1996, c. 11.

1. Check the Table of Legislative Changes. The *Agricultural Produce Grading Act* is listed, but there are no amendments listed to April 21, 1997. (Re-read the extensive Explanatory Notes to verify the Table's coverage. These

Notes require intensive study to digest, which ordinary users of the materials, i.e. non-librarians—will generally not undertake.)

2. Check the Alphabetical Table of the *Statutes of British Columbia* at the front of the volume (assuming you know it's there) to see if the act has been amended in 1997—it has. [This step assumes knowledge of the Alphabetical Table's existence and its purpose.]
3. Check the amending act [S.B.C. 1997, c. 9] to see what Commencement provisions were specified. (The *Agricultural Produce Grading Act* is to come into force by regulation).
4. Consult numerous issues of *BC Gazette Part II*—since May 26, 1997 the date the Act received Royal Assent—to find out if there has been a regulation proclaiming the Act in force. (To date there has not been such a regulation).

This research could have been shortened somewhat by using *B.C. Legislative Digest* to find out what amendments were made in 1997 and if they are in force. However, not everyone has access to *B.C. Legislative Digest*.

### *Lack of consistency & comprehensiveness:*

The format used by the old Table of Statutes to list information is still the standard format used across Canada and is familiar to most experienced BC legal researchers. In addition to complicating routine statutory research, the format of the new Table of Legislative Changes will be unfamiliar to researchers outside British Columbia trying to determine the status of a BC act. Further, law students and lawyers practising here and those moving to British Columbia from other Canadian jurisdictions will be unfamiliar with how to read the Table of Legislative Changes. Further the "cut-off date" for the new Table of Legislative Changes is inconsistent with the cut off date for prior Tables of Statutes. The Table of Statutes in the 1995 bound volume was current to December 31, 1995. The year-end cut-off date made it simple to answer routine questions as to the state of an act at a given year's end. By changing the cut-off date to mid-year, the usefulness of the Table of Legislative Changes has been severely reduced. It is now necessary to also consult the tables in the *British Columbia Legislative*

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*Digest* for the period April 22 to December 31, 1997. Few legal researchers other than law librarians are familiar with these tables; few libraries outside the province will even have this resource.

Legal researchers in BC—and elsewhere—need a consistent year-end cut off date. The 1998 Table of Statutes should include all 1998 amendment and proclamation information to December 31, 1998. A consistent cut-off date will cut down on time spent researching and potential confusion. A December 31 cut-off date is logical, allowing for the possibility that the Legislature might sit in the Fall as well as the usual Spring sitting. Other information appears to be missing from the Table of Legislative Changes due to editorial choices. For example: sections that came into force in 1997 by operation of a 1996 regulation have not been included (e.g. B.C. Reg. 358/96). For other acts (e.g. *Farm Practices Right to Farm Act*) missing information makes it difficult to follow the proclamation information.

#### *Recommendation:*

We hope that the 1997 Table of Legislative Changes is not a portent of things to come but merely a response to the unique situation created by the mid-year publication of the R.S.B.C. 1996. We are concerned that following the pattern set by the 1997 bound volume, statute volumes which previously came out slowly will be rushed to print with half the information missing from this crucial Table.

We are still awaiting the publication of the 1996 *Statutes of British Columbia* bound volume. We urge you to return to the format of the Table of Statutes and use December 31 as the cut-off date for both 1996 and 1998 bound statute volumes. We appreciate that it might take longer to prepare a Table cumulating changes to the end of the year. If necessary, we would prefer to rely on the *Third Reading Bills* for these year a little longer if it were to ensure that the information included in the bound volume's Table is current to the appropriate year-end. We trust that you will consider our suggestions favourably and for all future volumes of the *Statutes of British Columbia*.

Yours truly,

VANCOUVER ASSOCIATION OF LAW  
LIBRARIES

Per:

Anna L. Holeton  
Law Librarian  
VALL President

cc: Brian Greer, Chief Legislative Counsel  
Dawn Urquhart, Chair, CALL Vendors' Liaison  
Committee  
Nancy Hannum, Chair, BCLA Government  
Publications Committee

**Reply Letter from Arleen Hartley, Publications  
Supervisor Legislative Counsel's Office, to Anna  
Holeton**

August 14, 1998

Ms. Anna L. Holeton  
President, Vancouver Association of Law Libraries  
P.O. Box 48663, Bentall Centre  
Vancouver, B.C. T7X 1A1

Dear Ms. Holeton

Thank you for your July 28 letter expressing VALL's concerns about the Table of Legislative Changes. It is important to us that the information in the Table meets users' needs, and we appreciate hearing from you.

Our office will look at ways in which your requirement for a December 31 cut-off date may be met. We may also consider publishing the Table separately to make available a version that is more current than the one in the annual bound volume. We would be interested in your thoughts on how a separate publication of the Table would be received.

We sincerely hoped that the tabular format of the new Table would be less daunting visually and more explanatory than the format of the former Table of Statutes. We also hoped that the additional information the new Table provides (such as Royal

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Assent dates) would eliminate some research steps and, most importantly, that it could be clearly understood as long as the user is acquainted with the abbreviations used. In addition to the comments in your letter, we would also appreciate any further comments you may have on specific aspects of the Table's presentation that cause difficulty, as well as any suggestions for improvement.

We look forward to discussing these matters further with you. We expect we will need to make decisions on the format for the next publication by late fall.

Yours truly,

Arleen Hartley  
Publications  
Ministry of Attorney General

Legislative Counsel Office

## Correspondence Regarding Parliamentary Website

**E-mail message sent by Anne Beresford, Ladner  
Downs, to Infonet@parl.gc.ca**

Sent July 24, 1998

Dear Sir or Madam:

As a Library Manager for a large law firm, I am concerned that the information regarding federal bills is misleading. The website is therefore unreliable and I cannot recommend its use.

I was searching for S-14 which was introduced in the Senate March 25, 1998. There is no evidence of it on the website. To track and monitor legislation therefore is not possible electronically as it is too subject to errors. It was explained to me that there is only a problem with Senate bills, however I am not convinced.

Is there a way to rectify this problem and ensure your users that the information is accurate and current?  
Thank you.

Anne Beresford, Library Manager

**E-mail reply from Infogate@parl.gc.ca**

Sent August 4, 1998

Thank you for your comments concerning the Bills section of the Parliamentary Internet Parlementarie.

Please note that if you wish to know the status of a bill, then you may access this information from the Status of House Business for bills and motions in the House of Commons and for information concerning bills in the Senate, the Progress of Legislation may be used. These documents may be found under Parliamentary Business, Chamber Business.

You stated that you found the information concerning federal bills misleading and the website unreliable. The only example you gave concerned Senate Bills that are not government bills. If you have any further examples, we would appreciate receiving them as this type of information is very valuable to us in evaluating the effectiveness of the website.

Please note that while we attempt to provide accurate information electronically, it is made clear that in all cases, the official version of a document is the printed copy. The function of this website is to provide the information in as timely and accurate as possible.

**E-mail reply from Anne Beresford**

Sent August 04, 1998

Sirs:

Thank you for your response regarding the accuracy of the Bills website. It was explained to me by a spokesperson in the Senate, that the input to the website from the Senate is much delayed because of the few staff available to maintain the updating. It is unfortunate that there could not be more coordination as your Public are unaware that there is a difference at the source, and expect to find accuracy and currency with both the Senate, and the Parliamentary bills.

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You suggested where I might find the information on Senate bills—I was in the correct website page, however the information was not there.

Yes I know that the printed copy is the official copy and we read much about the inaccuracies and unreliability of materials on the Internet. However it is human nature to use the quickest method to obtain an answer, and therefore a disappointment when it is found that the answer is not there.

I continue to be amazed at the quantity and quality (excellent) of materials on the government websites, and am in awe of the improved access to information, compared with a few years back. This is why I pass these comments on to you so that the website continues to improve and that if you have it in your power to improve the input to the Senate website then I ask that you do so.

Thank you for listening.  
Anne Beresford, Library Manager

## Courthouse Library Summer Grab-Bag

The next time you visit the Vancouver Courthouse Library, you may notice a change in the layout of the central area of the library. We have released the microforms and their reader/ printers from custody. No longer are they incarcerated in a cramped room; they now occupy some of the most pleasant work space in the library, with lots of natural light and greatly improved air circulation. Feel free to ask the reference staff for assistance in using the reader/ printers, or try using them with the guide we have written.

Next to the microforms sit the eight public workstations with a host of electronic products installed on them. The newest of these products is *DART: Western Decisions*. Published by Western Legal Publications, this is the electronic equivalent of the old print standbys: *B.C. Decisions*, *Alberta Decisions*, *Saskatchewan Decisions* and *Manitoba Decisions*. Both the civil and criminal decisions are available.

Another recent change is to our photocopy service. In order to comply with new requirements for submissions to the Supreme Court of Canada, we will now do double-sided photocopying for you.

After more than 100 years of hand annotating major Canadian law report series, the Vancouver Courthouse Library has discontinued the service. No new cases dated 1997 or later will be added to the margins of the *British Columbia Law Reports*, the *Canadian Criminal Cases* or any of the other report series. However, as well as the print service *Canadian Case Citations*, we use the two citators on QL to note up cases. *Quickcite* and the online version of *Canadian Case Citations* quickly provide easy-to-use lists of cases considering the case you are interested in, and you do not need a magnifying glass to read the citations!

Finally, the B.C. Courthouse Library Society is pleased to announce the availability of updated lists of the *Statutes of British Columbia Consolidations* and *Statutes of Canada Consolidations*. These lists provide the titles of commercial publications, held by the courthouse libraries, which contain consolidations of B.C. or federal statutes and regulations. We have revised and expanded the lists to include rules made pursuant to the acts, for example, *Immigration Act Rules*, *Family Relations Act Rules* and *Rules of Notaries Public*. The lists are organized alphabetically by statute name. We also note where these publications are to be found in our libraries.

The lists can be purchased for \$25.00 plus GST (\$26.75). To order, please contact Susan Whalen at (604) 660-2910.

If you have any other questions, please contact the reference staff at the Vancouver Courthouse Library at 660-2841 or 1-800-665-2570 or e-mail us at [bccls@bccls.bc.ca](mailto:bccls@bccls.bc.ca).



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## CONFERENCES

### Call '98 Conference Report

#### Part I—The Overview

This year's CALL Conference was held in Hamilton, Ontario. Since I'm from Hamilton, I was fortunate enough to combine my first CALL Conference with a visit with family. Between the opening reception, the sessions, the President's Banquet at the Scottish Rite, a gorgeous old building, and visiting family, I had a wonderful and hectic time.

Both plenary sessions were excellent. The first session was on *Health and Safety in the Library*, and the speaker was an ergonomist from the Canadian Centre for Occupational Health and Safety. He outlined the ergonomic hazards of the library workplace, such as repetitive movements, forceful movements, awkward working postures and the environment (lighting, noise and air pollution). He then provided detailed information on how to set up a good computer station that would reduce the chance of repetitive strain injuries. For those of you interested in ergonomics, the Centre has a website: [www.ccohs.ca](http://www.ccohs.ca)

In the second plenary session, *The Employer/Employee Relationship*, two lawyers answered questions posed by the convenor. This session was fascinating because the lawyers answered the questions from several viewpoints: human rights, workers' compensation, employment law and the common law. These different viewpoints provided a good reminder of how complex the employer/employee relationship can be.

In the *Database Protection—the Impact on Libraries* session, we heard a thorough review of the legal protection for databases that is in place. There is protection through international treaties, the European Database Directive, U.S. and Canada's Copyright Acts, license agreements and leading caselaw.

*Maximizing Your Use of the Internet* was divided into two parts. The first part focused on the tools for searching the Net: web directories, search engines and meta crawlers. Tips for improving searches included concentrating on getting familiar with one or two search engines, mastering advanced features and putting phrases in quotation marks.

The second part of the session dealt with Internet and email security. Obviously, we shouldn't email sensitive information, but we can improve security if necessary through using encryption and changing passwords regularly. The text of this session can be found on the Internet at: [www.uwindsor.ca/sls/internetsecurity.htm](http://www.uwindsor.ca/sls/internetsecurity.htm)

*Beyond the Official Version: A Follow-Up to the National Summit* was indeed a follow-up to the Legal Information Summit held in November, 1997 (see *VALL Review*, Vol.10(3), p.7). The speakers reviewed the objectives of the Summit for us: to assure authenticity of electronic legal information, to preserve it and to standardize its citation. Many important issues were identified at the original Summit, such as what should be preserved and who should be responsible for preservation, yet there is still work to be done. It was mentioned that AALL is holding a summit in January, 1999 (in New Orleans!!), and a collaboration is proposed between CALL and AALL.

Overall, I enjoyed the conference very much and found that I returned to work with a fresh perspective. I'd like to thank VALL and the B.C. Courthouse Library Society for making it possible for me to attend.

*contributed by Chris Taylor,  
B.C. Courthouse Library Society;  
1997/98 Peter Bark Bursary recipient*

#### Part II—Vendors' Liason

*Stephen Abrams'* (IHS Micromedia Ltd.) comments during CALL 1998's Vendors' Liaison Committee panel on *Legal Publishing: Process, Products, Predictions* emphasized that librarians' roles are changing. Negotiating licensing agreements with vendors will become a crucial skill for librarians. Abrams also exhorted librarians to "get out of the middle" and stop trying to both organize information systematically and serve up information to uninvolved users. He pointed out the need to adapt by choosing a main focus to prevent overwhelming stress. One must choose, he said, between organizing information systematically to facilitate users' access or spending more time training end-users to be better information

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gatherers. Unfortunately in law firms, both activities are equally important.

*contributed by Anna Holeton, Campney & Murphy*

## Report from the 1998 Special Libraries Association Annual Conference

### Overview

The reduced attendance at the 1998 SLA annual conference held June 6-11<sup>th</sup> reflected the fact that, as a location, Indianapolis was not as popular as Seattle. However, the difference in numbers was no indication of program quality. There were "hot topics"—sessions that were quickly filled to capacity with people sitting in aisles, along walls, and crammed into doorways—and unexpected windfalls—sessions not full of people but packed with information. There was definitely an emphasis on the many facets of "knowledge management". This term is now much more than a vague concept, at least for this writer. While sessions on "useful web sites" are still popular, there is a growing interest in the developing role of the information profession in web, particularly intranet, design.

### Legal Division

SLA's Legal Division, which was started in 1993, now has a membership of over 1000. The division sponsored 17 sessions at the conference. *Gumshoe Librarians: Investigative Research in the '90's* drew a large crowd as the librarian from Kroll & Associates provided some insight into the workings of a competitive intelligence organization. With too many options to choose from, I unfortunately missed *The Great Debate: Electronic Law Libraries—Has the Future Arrived?* The SLA Legal Division now has a listserv and details of how to subscribe can be found at <http://sla.org/list2.html>.

### Western Canada Chapter (WCC)

The Western Canada Chapter was well represented at the Conference. John Sinclair, Edmonton Sun librarian and WCC Edmonton Director, presented the session *Intranet Ornamentation*. Patricia Cia, librarian at Teck Corporation and the person responsible for

the WCC web site and electronic journal, *Wired West*, was a panelist at the Web Authors' Workshop.

### My Personal Favourites

Stan Davis, the general session keynote speaker, challenged librarians to evaluate the life cycle of their profession, to redefine themselves for future effectiveness by being aligned with the core activity of their institutions, and to be part of the "connected" society by using knowledge management to link people to people and people to information. WCC has available for members the video tape of this presentation, as well as a copies of Mr. Davis's book *Blur: The Speed of Change in the Connected Society*.

*Building a Knowledge Management Framework: Strategic Opportunities for Information Professionals* featured Ronald Peters, a Calgary consultant. This was one of those surprise sessions, packed with useful information but overlooked by most attendees. I have listened to the tape three times just to catch all the key points. The audio tape is for sale from SLA—check <http://www.sla.org/conf/tapes.html>—or for loan to members from SLA/WCC. The information provided the impetus and framework for a strategic plan for my library—a document which links library functions with the Commission's mission and which rationalizes the growing responsibilities of the information centre.

A panel of three at *Speaking to Your Public: Effective Communication with an Audience* provided lots of very practical tips. One speaker advocated the SOFTEN approach: Smile; Open posture; Forward leaning; Territory—move about; Eye contact; Nod your head when appropriate. Another elaborated on eight steps to win over an audience: know the subject, practice practice practice, keep eye contact, use humour, grab them with something exciting, move it along, use visual aids, and slow down. I am not sure I will ever personally learn to slow down, but it is definitely something to aim for.

### About SLA Fees

The Annual Board meeting at the end of the conference provided an opportunity to alert SLA members to a proposed fees increase and to allow for discussion of the issues. There are many sound reasons for this increase, not the least of which is the necessity

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for SLA to meet IRS requirements for tax-exempt status—a benefit which saves the association over a million dollars each. Check the latest edition of *Wired West* at the SLA/WCC website (<http://www.sla.org/chapter/cwcn/index.html>) for further comments on this issue.

## What's Ahead

The 1999 SLA Annual conference in Minneapolis may not be any more popular a destination for Vancouver librarians. However, the theme—*Knowledge Leaders for the New Millennium: Creators of the Information Future*—promises to carry us one more step forward in the knowledge management continuum.

reported by Carol Williams,  
B.C. Securities Commission

## INTERNET CORNER

### B.C. Courthouse Library Society

<http://www.bccls.bc.ca>

In case you missed the news, the B.C. Courthouse Library Society has mounted its website on the Internet. A new server was installed in August so you should find access to the website trouble-free. Through the website you can search the library catalogue or find information about their services and the courthouse libraries around the province.

If you have any questions please contact the reference staff of the Vancouver Courthouse Library at 660-2841 or 1-800-665-2570, or e-mail at [bccls@bccls.bc.ca](mailto:bccls@bccls.bc.ca)

### Casebase

[http://www.smithbernal.com/casebase\\_frame.html](http://www.smithbernal.com/casebase_frame.html)

Casebase is a free service which provides the full text of over 20 000 judgements from the U.K. Courts of Appeal and the Queen's Bench Division (Crown Office) decided since April 1996. Cases are added to the system 30 days after the transcripts are approved and can be found by browsing decision dates or by searching for keywords from the case name, case number, date, and court division. The site's creator, Smith Bernal International is the largest court reporting

service in the world and the Official Reporters for the Courts of Appeal and the Central Criminal Court in London.

### Law Society of British Columbia

<http://www.lawsociety.bc.ca>

Still under development, the Law Societies internet site currently offers the *Legal Profession Act*, the *Law Society Rules*, and the *Professional Conduct Handbook*. Some materials prepared especially for non-lawyers are also included. Keep an eye open for new additions such as the *Practice Checklists* in the near future.

contributed by Tracey Carmichael,  
B.C. Courthouse Library Society

## VENDORS CORNER

### News from Butterworths

#### CD-ROM Products

*British Columbia Civil Practice Library* (*British Columbia Practice* and *British Columbia Court Forms* on CD-ROM) and *Intellectual Property on CD-ROM*.

The *Hughes* services (on *Copyright and Industrial Design*, on *Patents*, and on *Trademarks*) have been receiving positive feedback from lawyers. These CD-ROM products include Butterworths formfill feature which allows the user to fill in and print the forms. If any lawyers wish to receive some training, please call Arthur at 689-4133.

#### Looseleaf

Butterworths has published Christie's *Employment Law in Canada*, 2nd ed., which is now in a two-volume looseleaf. Also published in the summer were *Bank Act: Legislation and Commentary* (Teolis/Jetten) and *Insurance Companies Act: Legislation and Commentary* (Teolis/Jetten). The third title in the series, *Trust and Loan Companies Act: Legislation and Commentary* will be published in October. These three titles provide in-depth coverage of the rules by which banks, trust companies and insurance companies must operate. Extensive analysis of each section is included.

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## Texts

Prominent texts recently published were *1998/99 Annotated Federal Court Act and Rules* (Hughes), *1998 Canada Business Corporations Act*, *1998 Ontario Business Corporations Act* and *Canadian Securities Regulation* (Johnston/ Rockwell). Forthcoming in the late fall are new editions of *The Law of Evidence in Canada* (Sopinka/Lederman/Bryant) and *Trial of an Action* (Sopinka/Houston).

You can reach me by telephone at 689-4133, fax at 682-5779 or internet email at [avaz@butterworths.ca](mailto:avaz@butterworths.ca).

*contributed by Arthur Vaz,  
Sales Manager, Western Canada*

## News From CCH

CCH has acquired **TaxPrep**, **Cantax** and **Informatrix**. These companies are Canada's leading tax compliance software organizations, based in Calgary, Toronto and Montreal. They will operate as a separate CCH business unit.

CCH is pleased to announce that we have signed an agreement with the **ABA Practice Management Section** to distribute selected titles in Canada. These titles will be available this fall. For more information, or to place your name on our legal mailing list, please call our Customer Service Center at 1-800-268-4522.

## New Publications

The following books are due to be released this fall: *Canada Business Corporations Act*; *Annotated Ontario Securities Legislation*; *CPPOAS*; *Death of a Taxpayer*; *GST/HST and Real Property in Canada*; *Ontario Business Corporations Act*; *Wainberg's Company Meetings*.

## CD-ROM/Internet

Fifty-five CCH services are now available on the Internet as well as CD-ROM access. Internet subscription prices are the same as CD-ROM and provide the same functionality. There is a small premium charge for access in both media. A thirty day free trial is available for all electronic services in either format.

The *Canada Corporations Law Reporter* on CD-ROM now contains full text of all companies acts from the provinces and territories.

Do you have an idea for a new product or service? Is there anyone in your firm who is working on a manuscript they would like to have published? If so, please contact Suzanne Tyson, CCH's Director, New Product Acquisitions at: [suzanne\\_tyson@ca.cch.com](mailto:suzanne_tyson@ca.cch.com) or at (416) 228-6137.

For more information, please contact your local CCH representative or call 688-7522 or Customer Service at 1-800-268-4522.

*contributed by David Pleasance,  
Business Development Manager*

## News from CLE

### Case Digest Connection—Archive

**COMING SOON!** CLE's important new legal research tool! *Case Digest Connection—Archive*, the companion product to *Case Digest Connection*, our e-mail subscription service, will be launched in a few weeks. Updated weekly, the Archive collects all the CLE Case Digests published since January 1996 in one convenient, fully searchable database. You can easily browse the index or search the digests by subject, key word, name of party, judge, counsel, or expert witness on your computer, over the Internet, with one firm-wide password. All Digests are linked to the full text judgment. Cost is the same as the e-mail product; or, if you purchase both products, the 2nd is half price. Please call our Customer Service department at 893-2162 for more details.

### New Books

#### *Company Articles—Sample Articles for a British Columbia Company*

**NOW AVAILABLE!** *Company Articles* provides an easy-to-use set of sample articles as well as pointers for drafting articles of incorporation. The 6" x 9" softcover, coilbound booklet sets out the limitations of Table A and offers a comprehensive and reliable alternative. The commentary states provisions that should and should not be included in the articles, and

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refers back to the *Company Act* in detail. Includes free Articles on Disk. \$65.

## ***New Family Law Rule 60 Forms on Disk***

**NOW AVAILABLE!** The new forms for family law proceedings under new Supreme Court Rule 60 are now available on disk. Forms 127 to 136 affected by the changes to Rule 60 and 60B are formatted in Word 6 for Windows and WordPerfect 5.1 for DOS. A booklet containing the new Rule 60 and the text of the forms comes with the disk. \$40.

## ***Annotated Guidelines and Family Practice, 1998-99***

**COMING IN SEPTEMBER!** A handy compilation of family law statutes, rules, and practice directions, featuring the Child Support Guidelines, annotated with over 100 case summaries. Plus you receive the full text of the Rules of Court (featuring the new Rule 60 and 60A), the *Family Relations Act*, the *Divorce Act*, and over a dozen related statutes and rules. \$90.

## ***Collected Real Estate Precedents***

**OCTOBER RELEASE!** Now in one handy volume—all forms and precedents from our outstanding collection of real estate books. This fully indexed compilation includes nearly 300 precedents, including prescribed forms under the *Land Title Act*, *Condominium Act*, and other relevant statutes; marketing information from the Superintendent of Real Estate; and, a wide variety of other sample documents—from sample agreements to search letters to building schemes. Also includes Forms and Precedents on Disk.

## ***Employment Standards in B.C.—Annotated Legislation and Commentary***

**NOVEMBER LAUNCH!** A practical guide to issues under the *Employment Standards Act*, featuring succinct summaries of all important tribunal and court decisions, expert commentary, and the complete text of the Act and Regulation.

## ***Land Title Practice Manual***

**DELAYED TO NOVEMBER** The long-awaited new edition, as announced in the last *VALL Review*, is now scheduled for release this November.

## **News from Carswell**

### **ecarswell**

Carswell has announced our forthcoming Internet products to be published in fall 1998.

### **Securities.pro**

In addition to the expert Alboini commentary, comprehensive case law and complete cross-jurisdictional legislation you've come to expect from *Securities Partner Plus*, we will have the OSC Bulletins, the DWB Precedents, Table of Concordance, and a weekly newsletter on this product.

### **Insolvency.pro**

Many of you are familiar with *Bankruptcy Partner*. In addition to the Houlden & Morawetz commentary, full *Canadian Bankruptcy Reports*, and all statutes and regulations, *Insolvency.pro* will include the PPSA legislation, case law and a weekly newsletter by Houlden & Morawetz.

### **Family.pro**

This complete package for the family law practitioner will include the *RFL's*, reported and unreported decisions, commentary from McLeod, Stark, MacDonald, Mamo, Wilton, Bernstein, Maclise, Miyauchi and others, and all provincial and federal legislation.

### **Coming Soon**

Planned for Fall 1998, *eCarswell for the General Litigator* will replace the topical and jurisdictional law reports pulled off QL in December.

All components of the *Abridgment* will continue to be accessible on QL.

### **Western Representatives for Customer Care and Technical Support**

Now in the Vancouver office are Anne Schofield, Goldline Rep, and John Charette, Technical Support. Anne can be reached at 604-685-5030 or at [aschofield@carswell.com](mailto:aschofield@carswell.com). John can be reached at 604-

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685-8007 or at jcharette@carswell.com. Fax number for both is 604-685-5343.

*contributed by Barb Esau,  
Key Account Representative*

## News from QL Systems

### British Columbia Human Rights Decisions

New database BCHR contains the full text of decisions released since January 1997 by the Human Rights Tribunal. New decisions will be added as they are released. In the coming weeks the database will be backdated to include decisions from 1982 to 1996 issued by the British Columbia Council of Human Rights. Database BCHR has been added to the global database HRBD (Human Rights Boards of Inquiry Decisions) which provides global searching of the decisions of 7 boards across Canada.

### British Columbia Regulations

QUICKLAW recently introduced the first electronic, searchable version of the British Columbia Regulations, database BREG. Currently, 461 Regulations, consolidated to February 1998, are available. Within a few weeks an additional group of Regulations will be added. The collection of Regulations is being built in stages, as the office of the Registrar of Regulations completes their conversion from an older format.

A drill-down index is provided in database BREG. The index is organized alphabetically, by Title of Act. Researchers may select the Title of an Act to view a complete list of all Regulations registered under that Act. Jump markers provide links to available Regulations. Alternatively, researchers may perform searches in the Regulations themselves (database BRGT), or in the Index (database BREG).

**Canada Law Book** has significantly enhanced its collection of caselaw on the QUICKLAW service. Several series have been backdated and print-copy pagination has been included in the online versions for ease of citing. The complete collection includes: *Dominion Law Reports*, 1912 to the present; *Canadian Patent Reporter*, 1941 to the present; *Labour Arbitra-*

*tion Cases*, 1948 to the present; *Canadian Criminal Cases*, 1898 to the present.

QUICKLINK PRO (version 1.02.01) now includes a "Record" option. The record option creates a log file that captures screens. This feature allows users to record all screens that are viewed during a QUICKLAW session, or to easily record non-consecutive screens. To activate the record option, click the File menu, and then click Record. QUICKLINK PRO will prompt you for a file name. While the record option is active an "R" appears in the QUICKLINK PRO status window. To close the log file, click the File menu, and then click Record.

*contributed by Joe Schmidt,  
Manager B.C. and Yukon Region*

## News from Western Legal Publications

### Settling into 856 Homer Street.

Thanks to those of you who attended our Open House on April 23rd—we were very pleased with the turnout and positive response to our new location. For those who were unable to attend—please drop by, say hello and take a quick tour!

### Meet Shayne Andrews

Earlier this summer we were happy to acquire Shayne Andrews as our new sales representative. If you have any questions about WLP services or if you require Dart CD-ROM training, please call Shayne at 687-5671, extension 305.

### Dart CD-ROM update

Western Legal Publications' revised CD-ROM lineup includes:

*Dart: Western Decisions*—digests of civil and criminal decisions for the four Western provinces—from 1979 for British Columbia and from 1980 for the prairies • \$425 CD-only, \$315 top-up

*Dart: British Columbia Labour Decisions*—digests of all British Columbia Labour Relations Board Decisions

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from 1979, British Columbia Labour Arbitration Awards from 1982 and Federal Labour Arbitration Decisions from 1996 • \$440 CD-only, \$350 top-up

*Dart: British Columbia Employment Standards* —full text of the *Act* and *Regulation* plus digests and full text of decisions interpreting/applying the legislation • \$430 CD-only, \$325 top-up

*Dart: British Columbia Statute Service*— full text and statutory history of the 1996 *Revised Statutes of British Columbia* plus digests of decisions interpreting/applying the legislation. We also include the full text of decisions where available • \$795

## Recently Published Annotated Acts

*Annotated British Columbia Human Rights Code* by W. Anita Braha

Binder and contents \$80 • 2 updates per year, anticipated upkeep cost \$40 per update

*Annotated British Columbia Mineral Tenure Act* by Gregory G. Blue

Binder and contents \$80 • 1 update per year, anticipated upkeep cost \$40

## New Annotated Acts

WLP and leading practitioner in the area of professional remuneration and litigation, Gordon Turrieff, have just published the *Annotated British Columbia Legal Profession Act*. This authoritative work contains the publisher's unofficial consolidation of the *Legal Profession Act*, *Code of Conduct*, *Law Society Rules*, statutory history, case digests and commentary. Every practicing lawyer in British Columbia needs a copy of this handy looseleaf.

Binder and contents \$80 • 2 updates per year, anticipated upkeep cost \$40 per update

## Coming Soon

*Annotated Alberta Franchises Act* by Peter Macrae Dillon

Binder and contents \$60 • 1 update per year, anticipated upkeep cost \$30

*Annotated British Columbia Company Act* by Russell & DuMoulin

Binder and contents \$100 • 1 update per year, anticipated upkeep cost \$40

*British Columbia Business Legislation*

Bound softcover \$69

## New Digest Series

*British Columbia Environmental Law Digest* • \$160 Annual subscription

*Alberta Environmental Law Digest* • \$160 Annual subscription

*British Columbia Assessment Appeal Board Decisions* • \$200 Annual subscription

contributed by Nancy Nesbitt,  
Sales and Marketing Director

## Membership Matters

### Honourary Members

To mark his retirement as Head of the U.B.C. Law Library, Tom Shorthouse has been granted honorary membership.

### New Members

Gord Douglas  
Canadian Institute of Chartered Accountants  
Phone 274-3777  
Email plato@direct.ca

Bruce Davie  
Marketing Manager, CLE  
Phone 893-2105  
Email bdavie@cle.bc.ca

Sonia Poulin  
Assistant Librarian  
Farris Management Ltd.  
Phone 661-1723  
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Library Technician  
Russell & DuMoulin  
Email [gjd@rdcounsel.com](mailto:gjd@rdcounsel.com)

Joe Schmidt  
QuickLaw  
Manager, BC & Yukon Region  
Phone 684-1462  
Email [jschmidt@quicklaw.com](mailto:jschmidt@quicklaw.com)

## Membership Changes

Linda Yee's new phone number at LEXIS-NEXIS is 899-4478 and her fax number is now 899-4479.

## Meetings and Programs, 1998/99

September 17, 1998: Catherine Quinlan, University Librarian, U.B.C.  
October 15, 1998: Sandra Wilkins, Head of U.B.C. Law Library  
November 19, 1998: TBA  
December 17, 1998: TBA  
January 21, 1999: TBA  
February 18, 1999: TBA  
March 18, 1999: TBA  
April 15, 1999: TBA  
May 19, 1999: TBA  
June 17, 1999: TBA



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## Financial

VANCOUVER ASSOCIATION OF LAW LIBRARIES

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENSES

August 1, 1997-July 31, 1998

INCOME		
	Membership fees	1635.00
	Bank charges / interest (Net)	10.35
	Lunch meetings (Net)	268.23
EXPENSES		
	Postage, printing, and stationary	514.10
	Post Office box	101.65
	Peter Bark Memorial Fund	500.00
	Miscellaneous	148.75
NET INCOME		649.08
Chequing Account Balance	as of July 31, 1998	4282.42
Shares		55.77
Peter Bark Memorial Fund		
	Term deposit (matures April 18, 2000)	10500.00
	T-Bill Savings Account	912.64
	Shares	59.93

*submitted by Wendy Holmes,  
VALL Treasurer 1997/98, Davis & Company*